

Out in Paperback June 5, 2018

Oil & Marble

A Novel of Leonardo and Michelangelo

By Stephanie Storey

***Los Angeles Times* Bestseller**
One of Best Books of 2016 by Hudson Booksellers
Translated into 5 languages
In Development as a Feature Film by Pioneer Pictures

“Tremendously entertaining and ‘unapologetic’ in its artistic license, ‘Oil and Marble’ will remind an older generation of the pleasures of Irving Stone’s art historical fiction.”

—Maxwell Carter, *The New York Times*

“The artistic process can be one of self-doubt, struggle, and sheer physical exertion, and Storey depicts the drama here with truth and insight. A rewarding read for art aficionados and fans of historical fiction.”—Carolyn Mulac, *Booklist*

“Vividly evoking the turbulent world and ferociously competitive spirit of Renaissance Florence, Stephanie Storey transports the reader to one of the most creative and exciting moments in the history of that remarkable city.”—**William E. Wallace**, author of *Michelangelo: The Artist, the Man and His Times*

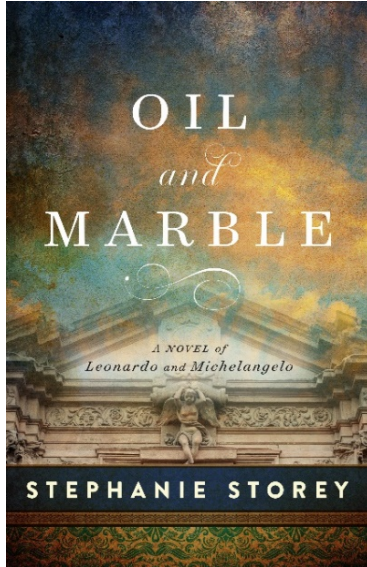
“With every chip of the chisel and stroke of the brush, Stephanie Storey fashions a mesmerizing tale of the envy, ambition, and artistic genius that drove an epic rivalry.”—

Elizabeth Cobbs, author of *Broken Promises: A Civil War Novel* and *Hamilton Affair*

Leonardo versus Michelangelo. Mona Lisa versus David.

The Mona Lisa and the David—two of the most iconic pieces of art in all of western history—were created at the same time, in the same city, by two competitive artists. *Oil & Marble* is a historical novel about that legendary rivalry.

From 1501—1505, Leonardo da Vinci and Michelangelo Buonarroti both lived and worked in Florence. Leonardo was a charming, handsome fifty-year-old at the peak of his career. Michelangelo was a temperamental sculptor in his mid-twenties, desperate to make a name for himself.



Michelangelo is a virtual unknown when he returns to Florence and wins the commission to carve what will become one of the most famous sculptures of all time: David. Even though his impoverished family shuns him for being an artist, he is adamant about supporting them. Living at the foot of his misshapen block of marble, Michelangelo struggles until the stone finally begins to speak. Working against an impossible deadline, he begins his feverish carving.

Meanwhile, Leonardo's life is falling apart: he loses the hoped-for David commission; he can't seem to finish any project; he is obsessed with his ungainly flying machine; he almost dies in war; his engineering designs disastrously fail; and he is haunted by a woman he has seen in the market—a merchant's wife, whom he is finally commissioned to paint. Her name is Lisa, and she becomes his muse.

Leonardo despises Michelangelo for his youth and lack of sophistication. Michelangelo both loathes and worships Leonardo's genius.

Oil and Marble: A Novel of Leonardo and Michelangelo is the story of their nearly forgotten rivalry. Storey brings early 16th century Florence alive and has entered with extraordinary empathy into the minds and souls of two Renaissance masters.

About the Author:

Stephanie Storey has a degree in Fine Arts from Vanderbilt University and an MFA from Emerson College. She studied art in Italy and went on a pilgrimage to see every Michelangelo on display in Europe. She's also an award-winning television producer of shows like *Tavis Smiley* on PBS, *The Writers' Room* on Sundance, and *The Arsenio Hall Show* for CBS. Born and raised in Hot Springs, Arkansas, she has lived in Los Angeles for 15 years. When not writing or producing, she can usually be found traveling the world with her husband—an actor and Emmy-winning writer—in search of her next story.

To request an excerpt or to arrange an interview with the author, please contact:

Allison Dykstra / (323) 203-7503 / Allison@GoCurated.com

Alexandra Hess / (212) 643-6816 x255 / ahess@skyhorsepublishing.com

Oil and Marble: Novel of Leonardo and Michelangelo

By Stephanie Storey

Arcade Publishing; Reprint edition paperback, also available as hardcover, ebook, Audible

On Sale: June 5, 2018

ISBN: 978-1-62872-906-1 | Price: \$16.99